

Message Text

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41

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 IO-14 PC-10 AGR-20 SCI-06 SWF-02

TRSE-00 USIA-15 INR-11 INT-08 COME-00 SSO-00 INRE-00

/156 W

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O P 111120Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8375

AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

UNCLAS DAKAR 5057

AFDROUGHT

EO 11652: NA

SUBJ: POSSIBLE AVAILABILITY RR FREIGHT CARS FOR USE

MALI/SENEGAL/RAILROAD OPERATION.

1. ON 9/6 RFFPO HAD LONG MEETING WITH WORLD BANK ENGINEER HEINZ GEORG RELATIVE TO HOW ASSISTANCE COULD BE OBTAINED IN SHORT/TIME TO ELIMINATE STOCKS DAKAR FOR MALI AND ALLEVIATE HEAVY CONGESTION AND DANGER OF COMMODITY SPOLAGE

2. IN COURSE OF CONVERSATION WITH GEORG, HE MENTIONED WORLD BANK LOAN MADE SOME YEARS AGO TO THE GOVT OF NIGERIA FOR THE PURCHASE OF 200 FREIGHT CARS FROM JAPAN. HE FURTHER ADVISED THAT THE TWO HUNDRED HAD BEEN DELIVERED. NEVERTHELESS, OUT OF THE ENTIRE ORDER THERE ARE AT PRESENT, AND HAVE BEEN FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS, 50 RPT 50 FREIGHT CARS, IN THE EBUTE METTA AREA, COMPLETE BUT AWAITING TO BE ASSEMBLED BY THE NIGERIANS. GAUGE, BRAKING SYSTEM AND COUPLING SYSTEMS WOULD HAVE TO BE CHECKED AGAINST MALI/SENEGAL RR REQUIREMENTS.

3. RFFPO STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT AID/W INVESTIGATE THE POSSIBILITY OF BORROWING THESE CARS, SHIPPING DAKAR AND UNCLASSIFIED

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ASSEMBLING THEM HERE, WITH REPLACEMENT IN SAY TWO YEARS

OR A LOAN ARRANGEMENT FROM THE WORLD BANK TO SENEGAL TO
REPLACE THE CARS AT A FUTURE DATE TO NIGERIA.

4. GEORG ALSO MENTIONED FACT THAT MALI HAD SOME TIME AGO
OBTAINED TWO GM LOCOMOTIVES, WHICH ARE THE FINEST IN WEST
AFRICA, AND THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF
US GOV INTERCEDING WITH GM TO OBTAIN AN ADDITIONAL TWO
LOCOMOTIVES FOR SENEGAL. HE CLAIMS NORMAL DELIVERY TIME FOR
LOCOMOTIVE WOULD BE 12 MONTHS HOWEVER FEELS IF USG MADE
SPECIAL REQUEST TO GM, PERHAPS TWO COULD BE ON THE JOB BY
MAR OF 1975. NO MENTION WAS MADE ON WHO WOULD PAY OR HOW
THESE TWO GM LOCOMOTIVES WOULD BE FINANCED.

5. WE WERE ALSO INFORMED THAT WORLD BANK WOULD BE SENDING
A TEAM TO SENEGAL IN OCT TO DISCUSS PROGRAM LOAN FOR
THIS COUNTRY. PERHAPS FINANCING COULD BE WORKED INTO THIS
PROGRAM LOAN.

6. RECOMMEND AID/S CONTACT GEORG FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS
AND DETAILS. HE WILL BE AVAILABLE WASHDC ON SEPT 16
WORLD BANK, DIRECT PHONE 477-2810.

FOR NIGERIA: PENDING ADVICE AID/W, REQUEST YOU ASCERTAIN
IF CARS STILL IN AREA AND UNASSEMBLED, AS ADVISED HEREIN.

SUGGEST YOU CABLE ANY FURTHER DETAILS ON SUBJECT DIRECT
AID/W,COPY DAKAR.
DAVIS

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